



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission, held Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 9:30 am, Sidney Community Safety Building, 2245 Oakville Ave, Sidney BC

PRESENT: Commissioners: D. Kelbert (Chair); M. Doehnel (Vice Chair); S. Duncan (EP); D. Halldorson; Z. King; C. McNeil-Smith; C. Pinches; S. Shrivastava; R. Windsor
Staff: A. Fraser, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; J. Marr, Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; J. Dales, Senior Manager, Wastewater Infrastructure Operations; S. Irg, Senior Manager, Water Infrastructure Operations; C. Lowe, Environmental Science Officer, Environmental Monitoring Programs; D. Dionne, Administrative Coordinator, Integrated Water Services (Recorder)

REGRETS: P. Jones

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 9:30.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner King, **SECONDED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith,
That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Halldorson,
That the minutes of the July 20, 2023 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair reminded everyone to be mindful and have patience with new staff members as they come up to speed on the service.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

5.1. Presentation – Dr. Peter Ross, Raincoast Conservation Foundation; Wastewater, stormwater and biosolids: A perfect storm, or superlative opportunity?

Dr. Ross provided a presentation to the Commission regarding water quality and the level of contaminants showing up in both freshwater and marine environments.

Discussion ensued and Dr. Ross responded to questions from the Commission regarding:

- Availability of labs to conduct testing for Coliform sources
- Concentration of contaminants in Biosolids
- Costs associated with data collection

- Source control
- Combining scientific data with Indigenous knowledge in regards to the Tod Creek monitoring Project
- Time frame for conducting a complete spectrum of analysis
- Time frame for the Tod Creek monitoring project
- Level of contamination in groundwater sources

Dr. Ross left the meeting.

Commissioner King left the meeting.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

6.1. General Manager's Introduction

A. Fraser introduced herself to the Commission and provided a brief background. She stated that she is looking forward to working collaboratively with the Commission to ensure proactive community needs are met.

7. COMMISSION BUSINESS

There was no Commission business.

8. NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

The following notices of motion were provided by Commissioners King, Doehnel and Chair Kelbert, for consideration at the next meeting:

8.1. Speaker Series

Whereas, there is a need for the commission to engage with citizens about water and wastewater trends, technologies and ideas, and

Whereas, the benefits of engaging with the community before tackling pressing issues will move the relationship with the public beyond a transactional exchange and toward increased trust, and

Whereas hearing from outside experts on topics of public interest will benefit staff, leaders and the community.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission direct staff to organize an annual speaker series for the peninsula, dedicated to presentations by researchers and public interest groups that are focused on emerging topics concerning water and wastewater.

8.2. First Nations Wastewater Representation

Whereas, there has been a long standing vacant position for First Nations representation on the Wastewater Commission, and

Whereas all residents of the peninsula have a shared interest in the issues related to the Wastewater Commission; such as land application of biosolids from the Residual Treatment Facility at Hartland, and

Whereas the responsibility of reconciling this representation has resided solely with the Capital Regional District Staff, and

Whereas building an integrated and strong sense of community requires representation from all groups.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Peninsula Wastewater Commission discuss and implement the idea of sending a delegation of commissioners to each of the four nations on the peninsula to address, and acknowledge the Nations concerns regarding representation on the Peninsula Wastewater Commission.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Halldorson, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Pinches,
That the September 28, 2023 meeting be adjourned at 10:18 am.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY